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this latter kind does not attract the attention of the multitude, partly because it can not be readily tested in examination, and secondly because it is more ordinary, more common. It is the unusual thing always that arouses the wonder of people, and sets them to talking.

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These modern instances of intellectual prodigies, then, give us no new view of human nature, and no new theory of education. They simply indicate what may be achieved in any particular direction by persistent, systematic, organized instruction. The particular intellectual achievements of these cases serves as no indication of how the majority of children ought to be trained; but they do impress the value of educational principles which are familiar to all who are in the business.

M. V. O'SHEA

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

THE WASHINGTON MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE
ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

THE sixty-third meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the tenth of the "convocation week" meetings, will be held in Washington, December 27 to 30, 1911. A meeting of the executive committee of the council (consisting of the general secretary, the secretary of the council, the permanent secretary, and the secretaries of all of the sections) will be held at the office of the permanent secretary, in the New Willard Hotel, at noon, on Tuesday, December 26. The opening general session of the association will be held at 8 o'clock P.M., on Wednesday, December 27, in the main assembly hall, new U. S. National Museum. The council will meet Wednesday morning, December 27, in the New Willard Hotel at 9 o'clock. Sections will meet in their respective halls at 10 A.M. on Wednesday.

The program for the *entire meeting* will be

issued on Wednesday, December 27, and copies may be obtained at the office of the permanent secretary in the New Willard Hotel.

The following events may be announced in advance:

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

The register for the Washington meeting will be open from 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., at the general office of the association in the Smithsonian Institution, and on following days from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at hotel headquarters, New Willard Hotel. The register will be open from 6:30 to 9:00 P.M. at hotel headquarters, New Willard Hotel.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00 A.M.—The council will meet in the council room at the New Willard Hotel. Registration from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M.—The sections will meet in their respective meeting-places for organization, and where sections have programs the reading of papers will begin after organization.

2:00 P.M.—Meetings of the sections and affiliated societies.

2:30 P.M.—Addresses by retiring vice-presidents as follows: Vice-president Frankforter, before the Section of Chemistry, on "The Resins and their Chemical Relations to the Terpenes"; Vice-president Reighard, before the Section of Zoology, on "Adaptation"; Vice-president Harper, before the Section of Botany, on "Some Current Conceptions of the Germ Plasm."

8:00 P.M.—First general session of the association in the assembly hall of the new U. S. National Museum. The meeting will be called to order by the retiring president, Dr. A. A. Michelson, who will introduce the president of the meeting, Dr. Charles E. Bessey. It is expected that the address of welcome will be given by the president of the United States. Reply by President Bessey. Announcements by secretaries. Agreement on the hours of meetings. Annual address by the retiring president, Dr. A. A. Michelson, on "Recent Progress in Spectroscopic Methods." Adjournment of the general session, to be followed by an informal reception and inspection of the exhibits of the new National Museum.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 A.M.—The council will meet in the council room at the New Willard Hotel. Registration from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M.—Programs of sections and affiliated societies.

2:30 P.M.—Addresses by retiring vice-presidents as follows: Vice-president Rosa, before the Section of Physics, on "Work of the Electrical Division of the Bureau of Standards"; Vice-president Rotch, before the Section of Mechanical Science and Engineering, on "Aerial Engineering"; Vice-president Hill, before the Section of Education, on "The Teaching of General Courses in Science."

3:00 to 4:30 P.M.—Exhibition cavalry drill at Fort Myer, Va.

8:00 P.M.—Informal reception at the Corcoran Art Gallery, by invitation of the trustees of the gallery.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 A.M.—The council will meet in the council room at the New Willard Hotel. Registration from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

10:00 A.M.—Continuation of programs of sections and affiliated societies.

2:30 P.M.—Addresses by retiring vice-presidents as follows: Vice-president Moore, before the Section of Mathematics and Astronomy, "On the Foundations of the Theory of Linear Integral Equations"; Vice-president Dixon, before the Section of Anthropology and Psychology, on "The Independence of the Culture of the American Indian," Vice-president Novy, before the Section of Physiology and Experimental Medicine, title to be announced.

3:00 P.M.—Vice-president Burton, before the Section of Social and Economic Science, on "The Cause of High Prices."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

10:00 A.M.—Continuation of programs of sections and affiliated societies.

There will be a number of joint meetings and the usual smokers and dinners and meetings of special societies and groups.

The plan of meeting places is as follows:

Section A—Mathematics and Astronomy—Carnegie Institution, corner Sixteenth and P Streets.

Section B—Physics, with American Physical Society—Bureau of Standards, Connecticut Avenue extended.

Section C—Chemistry, with American Chemical Society—McKinley Manual Training School, Seventh Street and Rhode Island Avenue.

Section D—Mechanical Science and Engineering

—Georgetown Law School, 506 E Street N. W.

Section E—Geology and Geography, with Geological Society of America—New National Museum, Eleventh and B Streets.

Section F—Zoology—New National Museum.

Section G—Botany, with Botanical Society of America—Business High School, Ninth Street and Rhode Island Avenue.

Section H—Anthropology and Psychology, with American Anthropological Association—Public Library, Seventh and K Streets.

Section I—Social and Economic Science, with American Economic Association—New Raleigh Hotel, Twelfth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Section K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—To be announced in daily program.

Section L—Education—To be announced in daily program.

A railroad rate of one fare and three fifths for the round trip, on the certificate plan, has been granted by the Trunk Line Association, the Eastern Canadian and the New England Passenger Associations (not including the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad and the Eastern and the Metropolitan Steamship Companies). The Southwestern Passenger Association offers no special rate, but advises members to take advantage of the "Christmas Holiday Excursion Rates," the dates of sale being December 15, 16, 17 and 21 to 25, inclusive, with final return date of January 8, 1912. From the states of California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and west of, and including, Mission Junction, B. C.; also from what are known as Kootenay common points, namely, Nelson, Rossland, Sandon, Kaslo and Grand Forks, B. C., the Transcontinental Passenger Association has on sale daily Nine Months Tourists fares, approximating two cents per mile in each direction, or about one fare and one third for the round trip. The nine months fares apply to the eastern gateways of the transcontinental territory, and station agents will cheerfully advise delegates as to the eastern points to which it will be most advantageous for them to purchase nine months tickets in rebuying through to Washington.

The officers for the Washington meeting are:

President—Charles E. Bessey, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebr.

Vice-presidents—

A—Mathematics and Astronomy, Edwin B. Frost, Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wis.

B—Physics—Robert A. Millikan, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

C—Chemistry—Frank K. Cameron, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

D—Mechanical Science and Engineering—Charles S. Howe, Case School of Applied Science, Cleveland, Ohio.

E—Geology and Geography—Bohumil Shimek, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.

F—Zoology—Henry F. Nachtrieb, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.

G—Botany—Frederick C. Newcombe, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

H—Anthropology and Psychology—George T. Ladd, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

I—Social and Economic Science—J. Pease Norton, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—William T. Porter, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.

L—Education—Edward L. Thorndike, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Permanent Secretary—L. O. Howard, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

General Secretary—John Zeleny, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.

Secretary of the Council—Theodore S. Palmer, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Secretaries of the Sections—

A—Mathematics and Astronomy—George A. Miller, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

B—Physics—A. D. Cole, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

C—Chemistry—C. H. Herty, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.

D—Mechanical Science and Engineering—G. W. Bissell, Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich.

E—Geology and Geography—F. P. Gulliver, Norwich, Conn.

F—Zoology—Maurice A. Bigelow, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

G—Botany—Henry C. Cowles, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

H—Anthropology and Psychology—George Grant MacCurdy, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

I—Social and Economic Science—Seymour C. Loomis, 69 Church Street, New Haven, Conn.

K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine—George T. Kemp, 8 West 25th Street, Baltimore, Md.

L—Education—C. Riborg Mann, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Treasurer—R. S. Woodward, Carnegie Institution, Washington, D. C.

Assistant to Permanent Secretary—F. S. Hazard, Office of the A. A. A. S., Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

The following societies have indicated their intention to meet in Washington during convocation week in affiliation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science:

American Anthropological Association.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 27 to 30, in the Public Library. One afternoon to be devoted to discussion of topic, "Environment and Culture." Joint meeting with American Folk-Lore Society on Thursday, December 28. Secretary, Dr. George Grant MacCurdy, Yale University Museum, New Haven, Conn.

Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in Carnegie Institution. Secretary, Professor William J. Hussey, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Society of American Bacteriologists.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in the Cosmos Club. Joint meetings with Section K and American Phytopathological Society. Secretary, Dr. Charles E. Marshall, East Lansing, Mich.

American Society of Biological Chemists.—Meets in Baltimore, Md., from Wednesday morning, December 27, to Friday noon, December 29. Joint session to be held in McKinley Manual Training School, Washington, D. C., with the Biological Section, American Chemical Society, on Friday afternoon, December 29. Secretary, Professor A. N. Richard, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

Botanical Society of America.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in the Business High School. Joint session with Section G and American Phytopathological Society on Friday, December 29. Secretary, Dr. George T. Moore, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Mo.

American Chemical Society.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 27 to 30, in the McKinley Manual Training School. Biological Section meets in joint session with American Society of Biological Chemists on Fri-

day afternoon, December 29. Secretary, Professor Charles L. Parsons, New Hampshire College, Durham, N. H.

American Civic Alliance.—Meets on Friday, December 29, in the New Raleigh Hotel. Secretary, Gerald Van Casteel, 165 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

American Economic Association.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 27 to 30, in the New Raleigh Hotel. Secretary, Professor T. N. Carver, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

American Association of Economic Entomologists.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in the new National Museum. Joint session with the Entomological Society of America on Wednesday, December 27, at 1 P.M. Secretary, A. F. Burgess, Melrose Highlands, Mass.

Entomological Society of America.—Meets on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 26 and 27, in the new National Museum. Secretary, Dr. Alex. D. MacGillivray, 604 East John St., Champaign, Ill.

American Fern Society.—Meets in the Business High School. Dates of meetings not yet announced. Secretary, Professor L. S. Hopkins, Lincoln High School, Pittsburgh, Pa.

American Folk-Lore Society.—Meets on Thursday, December 28, in the Public Library. Joint meeting with American Anthropological Association. Secretary, Dr. Charles Peabody, Peabody Museum, Cambridge, Mass.

Association of American Geographers.—Meets on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 28 to 30, in Hubbard Memorial Hall. Secretary, Professor Albert P. Brigham, Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y.

Geological Society of America.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 27 to 30, in the new National Museum. Secretary, Dr. E. O. Hovey, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.

American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and the Natural Sciences.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in Georgetown Law School Building, 506 E Street, N. W. Joint sessions will be held with Section L. Secretary, Professor Eugene R. Smith, Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.

American Home Economics Association.—Meets on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 28 to 30. Place of meeting to be announced. Secretary, Dr. Benjamin R. Andrews, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

Society for Horticultural Science.—Meets on Friday, December 29, at the Business High School. Secretary, C. P. Close, College Park, Md.

American Association for Labor Legislation.—Will meet in the New Raleigh Hotel. Dates to be announced. Secretary, Dr. John B. Andrews, Metropolitan Tower, New York, N. Y.

American Microscopical Society.—Will hold business session only, on date to be announced. Place of meeting: New Ebbitt House. Secretary, Dr. T. W. Galloway, James Millikin University, Decatur, Ill.

American Nature-Study Society.—Meets on Wednesday and Thursday, December 27 and 28, in the Business High School. President and Acting Secretary, Dr. Benjamin M. Davis, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Paleontological Society of America.—Meets on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 28 to 30, in the new National Museum. Secretary, R. S. Bassler, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

American Physical Society.—Meets with Section B at the U. S. Bureau of Standards. Dates to be announced. Secretary, Professor Ernest Merritt, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

American Physiological Society.—Meets on Friday, December 29, in the George Washington Medical School. Joint session with Section K. Secretary, Dr. A. J. Carlson, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

American Phytopathological Society.—Meets at the Business High School on dates to be announced. Joint sessions with Section G and Botanical Society of America on Wednesday and Thursday, December 27 and 28. Secretary, Dr. C. L. Shear, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

American Psychological Association.—Meets on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, December 27 to 29, in the George Washington Medical School. Joint meeting with Sections F and L on dates to be announced. Secretary, Professor W. V. Bingham, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H.

Sigma Xi.—Annual meeting in affiliation with A. A. A. S. to be held on Friday afternoon, December 29. Place to be announced.

American Sociological Association.—Will meet in the New Raleigh Hotel on dates to be announced. Secretary, Professor A. A. Tenney, Columbia University, New York, N. Y.

American Statistical Association.—Will meet in the New Raleigh Hotel on dates to be announced. Joint meeting with American Economic Association on Thursday, December 28, at 8 P.M. Secre-

tary, Professor C. W. Doten, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, Mass.

Sullivant Moss Society.—Meets on Thursday, December 28, in the Business High School. Secretary, Mrs. Annie Morrill Smith, 78 Orange Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Acting Secretary, W. R. Maxon, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.—Meets on Friday and Saturday, December 29 and 30, in the George Washington Medical School. Joint meeting with American Psychological Association on date to be announced. Secretary, Dr. R. M. Ogden, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

It is cabled from Stockholm that the Nobel prize for chemistry has been awarded to Mme. Curie, of the University of Paris. These preliminary announcements are usually but not always correct. The Nobel prize in 1903 was awarded half to Professor Pierre Curie and Mme. Curie and half to Professor Becquerel.

THE daily papers state that Dr. J. M. T. Finney, A.B. (Princeton '84), M.D. (Harvard '89), of the surgical staff of Johns Hopkins Hospital, has been offered the presidency of Princeton University.

DR. ELMER E. BROWN, late U. S. commissioner of education, was installed as chancellor of New York University on November 9.

PROFESSOR ERNEST W. BROWN, of Yale University, has been elected an honorary fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge.

At the annual meeting of the Royal Society of Edinburgh on October 23, Sir William Turner, K.C.B., F.R.S., was elected president, and Professor J. C. Ewart, F.R.S., Dr. J. Horne, F.R.S., Dr. J. Burgess, Professor T. Hudson Beare, Professor F. O. Bower, F.R.S. and Sir Thomas R. Fraser, F.R.S., were elected vice-presidents.

THE following astronomers have been elected honorary members of the Astronomical Society of Mexico: Professor A. Abetti, Florence; Professor G. Fayet, Nice; Professor R. H. Baker, University of Missouri; Professor F. W. Dyson, Astronomer Royal of England; Professor S. A. Mitchell, of Columbia University, and Professor W. Ebell, Kiel.

DR. GEORGE BLUMER, dean of the faculty of Yale Medical School, was elected president of the Connecticut Society for Mental Hygiene, at the third annual meeting of the society, held recently in New Haven.

THE fellowship of the International School of American Archeology and Ethnology at Mexico City, has been awarded by Harvard University to George Plummer Howe, A.B. 1900, M.D. 1910, of Lawrence, Mass.

DR. WILLIS W. WAITE has resigned as city bacteriologist of Syracuse, N. Y., to become director of Dr. Hugh Crause's Clinical Laboratory, of El Paso, Texas.

PROFESSOR R. T. CRAWFORD, of the Berkeley astronomical department, University of California, is absent on leave during the academic year and is at present in Germany. During his absence Professor D. W. Morehouse, of Drake University, has been appointed instructor in astronomy.

DR. OSTEN BERGSTRAND has been appointed professor of astronomy and director of the Observatory at Upsala.

PROFESSOR W. J. HUSSEY, who left Ann Arbor in June to assume the directorship of the Observatory of the National University of La Plata, Argentina, is engaged in the reorganization of the scientific work of that institution and is prosecuting his own researches in the field of visual double stars with gratifying results. Professor Hussey retains his connection with the Observatory of the University of Michigan and is developing the plan of cooperation in astronomical work between the universities of Michigan and La Plata, announced in *SCIENCE* earlier in the year.

DR. W. A. CANNON, of the Desert Laboratory, has returned to this country after traveling sixteen months in Europe and north Africa. He visited deserts adjacent to the Nile River in Upper Egypt, and the southern part of Algeria. In the latter country he explored the region little known to botanists between Ghardaia and Ouargla, and visited Tougourt and the Oued Rirh.